DEMONS OF THE UNDER WORLDS

NO. 1
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ANC

TALES OF TERROR

TALES OF HORROR

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JETTA
MYSTERY COMICS
FANTASTIC TALES
COSMO CAT
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STRANGE MYSTERIES
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DARING ADVENTURES

TALES OF HORROR. No. 1. JUNE, 1952. Published Quarterly by MINOAN PUBLISHING CORP., 17 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y. Editorial, Executive and Advertising Offices, 17 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y. Application for entry as second-class matter is pending. Single copies, 10 cents, subscription rate, 40 issues for $1.00 in the United States and possessions; elsewhere, $1.50. Copyright, 1952 by Minoan Publishing Corp. The stories, names, characters, incidents, and institutions mentioned or portrayed in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred. Printed in U. S. A.

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THE UGLIEST MAN IN THE WORLD!

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A WALK... A LONG WALK! I'M HAVING A COUPLE OF FRIENDS COMING OVER FOR A PARTY AND I DON'T WANT YOU AROUND.
I...I LIKE PARTIES, FRANKIE. CAN'T I STAY IN MY ROOM? I WON'T COME OUT... OR LET THEM SEE ME! I'M LONELY...

NOTHING DOING! GO TAKE A WALK, BILL! I DON'T WANT YOU AROUND. GET YOURSELF A NEW FACE! BUT DON'T COME AND BOTHER MY FRIENDS!
ALL RIGHT... ALL RIGHT, FRANKIE!

SO BILL WALKED THROUGH THE LONELY STREETS, HIS HEAD DOWN... KNOWING THAT PEOPLE STARED AT HIS UGLY FACE AND SHUDDERED AND TURNED AWAY IN HORROR!

SO THIS STORE'S GOT ANYTHING... ANYTHING A PERSON WANTS. BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE WHAT I WANT... A FACE PEOPLE WON'T TURN AWAY FROM IN FEAR! I DON'T WANT TO BE HANDSOME... ALL I WANT IS JUST A PLAIN, ORDINARY FACE...
ANYTHING, INC.

NEW FACES! IT... IT WON'T HURT TO ASK THEM! THE MOST THEY'LL DO IS JUST LAUGH AT ME! I'LL GO IN!
NEW FACES
NEW JOBS
NEW HANDS
COME IN AND ASK FOR WHAT YOU WANT.

IF FRANKIE EVER FOUND OUT I REALLY TRIED TO GET A NEW FACE... HE'D THINK I WAS CRAZY! HE'D POKE FUN AT ME... LAUGH... MAKE MY LIFE MISERABLE! BUT I CAN'T STAND LIVING WITH THE FACE I HAVE!
TINGLE

COME IN, YOUNG MAN! COME IN! DON'T BE AFRAID! I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT! A NEW FACE! WELL, YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE! WE'VE GOT ANYTHING YOU WANT! JUST ASK FOR IT!
A NEW FACE? YOU... YOU'RE NOT MAKING FUN OF ME? YOU REALLY HAVE NEW FACES?

HERE...PICK OUT A NEW FACE FOR YOURSELF! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LOOK LIKE? GREGORY PECK? ROBERT TAYLOR? MONTGOMERY CLIFT? MILTON BERLE?
JUST...JUST A PLAIN FACE, SIR. THESE ARE RUBBER MASKS!
MASKS? OF COURSE, YOUNG MAN, BUT ALL FACES ARE MASKS... MASKS COVERING THE REAL FACE OF EACH PERSON WHICH IS HIDDEN UNDERNEATH! HERE, TRY THIS ONE!
THERE, HOW DOES THAT FEEL FOR SIZE? COMFORTABLE?
OH, YES. IT FEELS FINE...JUST LIKE IT WAS MY OWN FACE!
IN A FEW DAYS, YOU'LL GET SO USED TO IT, YOU WON'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE WEARING A MASK. THAT'LL COST YOU 79 CENTS, AND 3 CENTS SALES TAX, 82 CENTS, PLEASE!
COME IN AGAIN...WHEN YOU REALLY NEED ANYTHING.
TANGIER
THIS...THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE SOMEONE SMILED ON ME INSTEAD OF TURNING AWAY IN HORROR! MAYBE NO ONE WILL FIND OUT I'M WEARING A MASK!
HA! HA! HA! GOT YOURSELF A MASK! GOOD IDEA, BILL! NOW I WON'T HAVE TO LOOK AT THAT UGLY FACE OF YOURS! HA! HA! HA!
3

BILL WENT TO BED STILL WEARING HIS MASK...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE; SLEPT WITHOUT TORMENTING DREAMS! BUT IN THE MORNING, HE WAS AWAKENED BY THE MOCKING LAUGHTER OF HIS BROTHER...

SO YOU SLEPT WITH YOUR MASK ON! HA! HA! HA! DIDN'T WANT TO LOOK AT YOURSELF IN YOUR DREAMS! OH BOY! THIS IS A RIOT! MY BROTHER GETS HIMSELF A MASK AND THINKS HE'S KIDDING ANYONE!

LEAVE ME ALONE, FRANKIE. IF THE MASK ANNOYS YOU... I'LL TAKE IT OFF...

THE MASK! IT... IT WON'T COME OFF!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE **STUCK** WITH IT! WHAT A JOKE! HA! HA! I GOT A BROTHER WHO'S NOT ONLY THE **UGLIEST** MAN IN THE WORLD! HE'S THE **FUNNIEST**, TOO!

FRANKIE, HELP ME! THE MASK WON'T COME OFF!

GO BACK WHERE YOU BOUGHT IT AND TELL THEM! SUE THEM! BUT DON'T BOTHER ME!

HURRIEDLY DRESSING, BILL RUSHED TO THE STORE, BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE PLACE...

THIS IS THE STREET... THE CORNER... BUT THERE'S NO STORE LIKE THE ONE I BOUGHT MY MASK FROM!

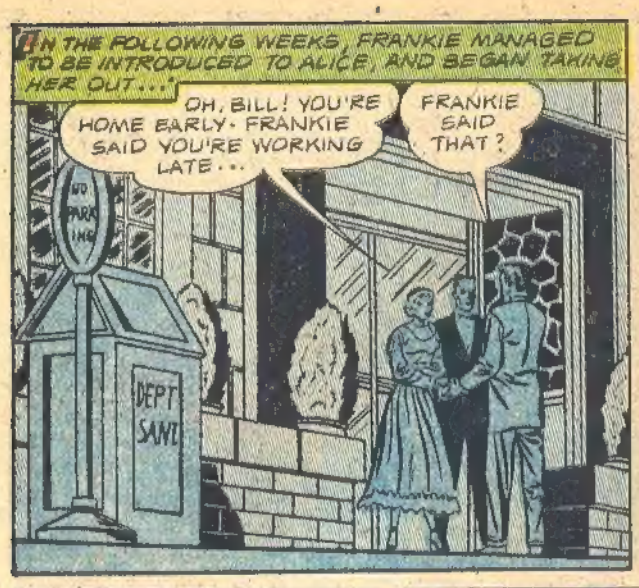
UMBRELLA SHOP

WHAT IF I CAN'T FIND THE STORE AGAIN? I'M SATISFIED WITH THE MASK! I WON'T MIND WEARING IT!

SAY, LITTLE GIRL, LET ME TRY. MAYBE I CAN FIX THE WHEEL FOR YOU.

CAN YOU, MISTER? REALLY? GEE... PLEASE FIX IT. I CAN'T USE THE CARRIAGE AND MY DOLLY IS COMPLAINING.

THERE! IT'S FIXED. JUST A PIN AND IT'S DONE! I GUESS YOUR DOLLY WON'T COMPLAIN ANYMORE.
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THE NICE MAN, MARION?
I'LL KISS HIM AND SAY THANK YOU!
SHE... SHE KISSED ME! DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I'VE GOT A MASK FOR A FACE!
THAT WAS VERY KIND OF YOU... FIXING THE CARRIAGE. MY NAME'S ALICE TERRY... WE DON'T LIVE FAR FROM HERE. WE JUST MOVED TO THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.
I'M BILL BECKER. SINCE YOU'RE NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, MAYBE YOU'LL LET ME BE A FRIEND? WOULD YOU GO TO THE MOVIES WITH ME TONIGHT?
I'D LOVE TO GO TO THE MOVIES WITH YOU. I'M OFF AT 7 O'CLOCK.
I'LL PICK YOU UP THEN!
IT WAS THE HAPPIEST DAY OF HIS LIFE... AND THAT EVENING, BILL DRESSED CAREFULLY FOR THE VERY FIRST DATE HE HAD EVER HAD!
WHAT ARE YOU SO CHEERFUL, BILL? DON'T TELL ME THAT MASK HAS FOOLED SOME GIRL INTO GOING OUT WITH YOU?
YES, I'M GOING OUT WITH A GIRL. SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO MIND MY WEARING A MASK... SO WHY SHOULD IT BOTHER YOU?
HE MUST HAVE MET A GIRL AS UGLY AS HIM! I'M GOING TO FOLLOW AND SEE! THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN!
WOW! HOW CAN A BEAUTIFUL GIRL LIKE THAT GO OUT WITH AN UGLY MONSTER LIKE MY BROTHER? WELL, SHE'S TOO NICE FOR HIM... I'M GONNA STEAL HER FROM UNDER HIS NOSE!
6


IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS, FRANKIE MANAGED TO BE INTRODUCED TO ALICE, AND BEGAN TAKING HER OUT...!
OH, BILL! YOU'RE HOME EARLY. FRANKIE SAID YOU'RE WORKING LATE...
FRANKIE SAID THAT?
DEPT SANI

YEH, THAT'S WHAT YOU TOLD ME. SO I FIGURED ALICE MIGHT WANT TO COME TO A DANCE WITH ME. DO YOU MIND?
NO, NO. GO AHEAD AND HAVE A GOOD TIME.

THAT UGLY BROTHER OF MINE GIVES ME A PAIN IN THE NECK, ALICE. WHY DO YOU WANT TO WASTE YOUR TIME WITH HIM?
I DON'T THINK IT'S A WASTE OF TIME, FRANKIE. I LIKE HIM ...VERY MUCH

YOU KNOW I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU. I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO OUT WITH THAT UGLY BROTHER OF MINE NOT ANYMORE...
WHY DO YOU KEEP SAYING "THAT UGLY BROTHER OF MINE" ALL THE TIME? I THINK BILL IS NICE LOOKING.

BILL IS THE UGLIEST MAN IN THE WORLD, KID!
YOU'RE JUST BEING MEAN, NOW, FRANKIE! YOU SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS ABOUT YOUR OWN BROTHER!

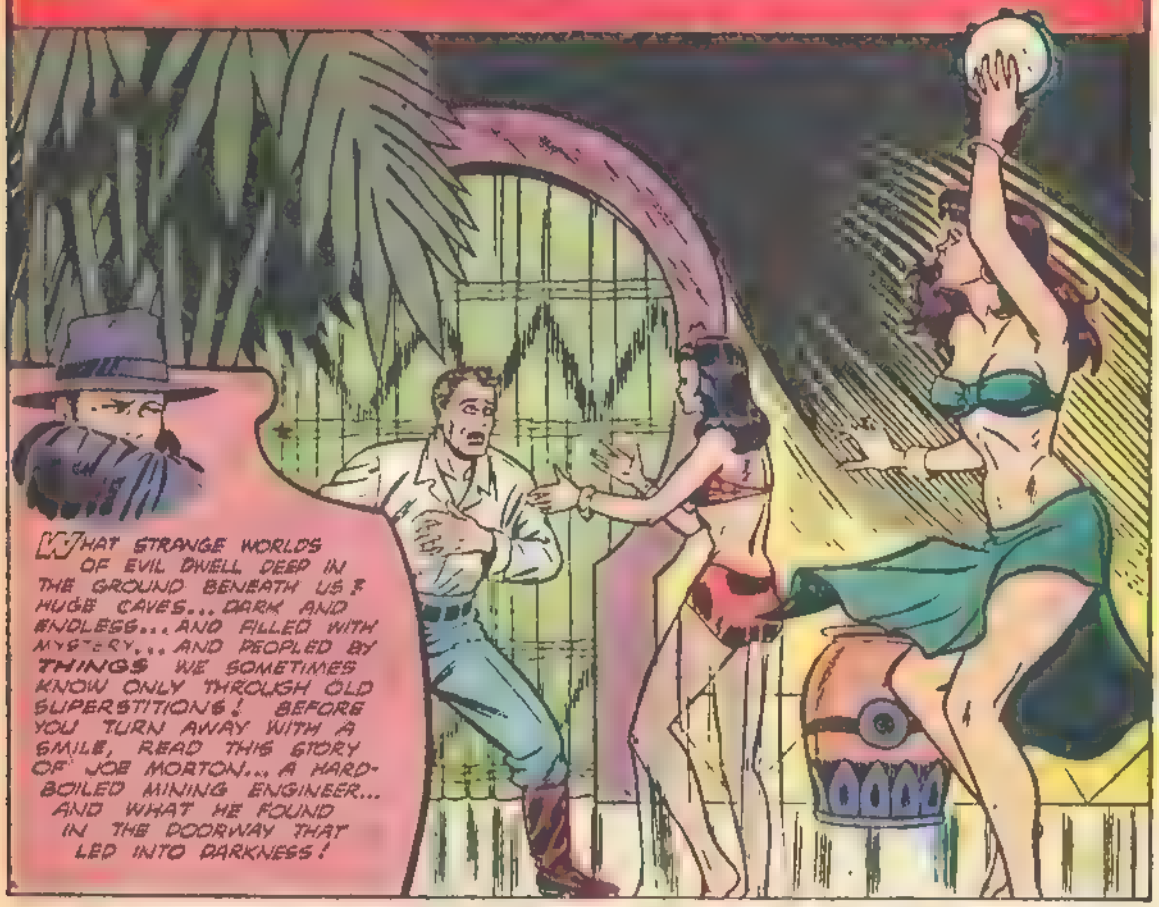
IT'S THE TRUTH! BILL WEARS A MASK TO FOOL PEOPLE! I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE FOOLED!
YOU'RE MEAN AND NASTY!

WAIT A MINUTE! YOU CAN'T SLAP MY FACE AND WALK OUT ON ME! I CAN PROVE EVERYTHING I SAY!
I'M NOT INTERESTED!

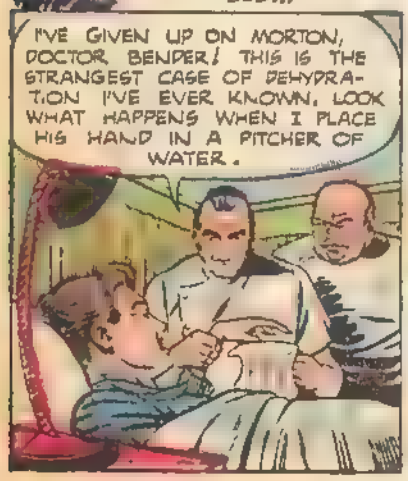
NOBODY IS GONNA MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME! I'LL MAKE YOU LOOK AT BILL'S REAL FACE! I'LL RIP THAT MASK OFF AND SHOW YOU!
IF...IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, YOU'RE A HORRIBLE PERSON.
BILL'S UPSTAIRS. COME ON, I'LL PROVE EVERYTHING I SAID!
YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE ME HATE BILL, FRANKIE! BUT YOU'LL NEVER SUCCEED! I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM...AND NOTHING WILL MAKE ME STOP LOVING HIM! EVEN IF HE IS THE UGLIEST MAN IN THE WORLD!
SAY, YOU'RE HOME EARLY! IS ANYTHING THE MATTER?
YEAH! PLENTY! YOU'RE GOING TO FIND OUT RIGHT NOW!
ALICE IS IN LOVE WITH YOU... OR MAYBE I SHOULD SAY IN LOVE WITH THAT PHONEY FACE YOU'RE WEARING! I'M GONNA RIP IT OFF AND SHOW HER WHAT SHE'S IN LOVE WITH!
DON'T, FRANKIE! DON'T DO IT!
PLEASE, FRANKIE! DON'T... DON'T LET HER SEE MY REAL FACE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? ASHAMED OF WHAT YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE? HA! HA! HA!
THERE! I GOT THE MASK OFF HIM!
FRANKIE! DON'T! DON'T!
HERE'S THE MASK, JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU! NOW GO AND HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT THE MONSTER YOU LIKE BETTER THAN ME!

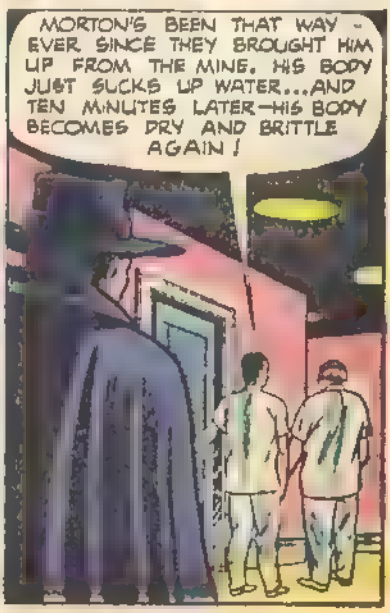
PLEASE, ALICE. GO AWAY! DON'T LOOK AT MY FACE! REMEMBER ME AS I WAS WITH THE MASK... NOT THE WAY YOU'LL SEE ME! PLEASE, DARLING, I DON'T WANT YOU TO HAVE NIGHTMARES!
I'M NOT AFRAID, BILL!
I LOVE YOU, BILL! I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE! I KNOW THE REAL YOU... AND THAT'S THE MAN I LOVE! LET ME LOOK AT YOUR FACE! LET ME KISS IT!
BUT YOU'RE NOT UGLY, BILL! YOU... YOU LOOK JUST THE WAY YOU ALWAYS DID!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YOU'RE JUST TRYING NOT TO HURT ME!
YOU'RE RIGHT! I... I DO HAVE A NEW FACE!
NEW FACE NOTHING! YOU HAVE THE SAME WONDERFUL FACE I'VE LOVED SINCE I FIRST MET YOU!
IT'S A TRICK! A TRICK TO CHEAT ME... TO HURT ME!
PAY NO ATTENTION TO FRANKIE, DARLING. THE MASK HE TORE OFF WAS FROM HIS OWN FACE... SHOWING HOW ROTTEN AND UGLY HE REALLY WAS UNDERNEATH!
MY FACE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY FACE! YOU'VE MADE ME UGLY! ME!
I WONDER IF FRANKIE IS LOOKING FOR THAT LITTLE SHOP ON THE CORNER THAT SELLS ANYTHING? WELL, HE'LL BE LOOKING FOR A LONG TIME!
THE END

Demons Below Us!



"JOE MORTON'S STORY HAS NO BEGINNING...AND NO END! TAKE A LOOK AT HIM HERE, AS HE LIES ON HIS HOSPITAL BED..."

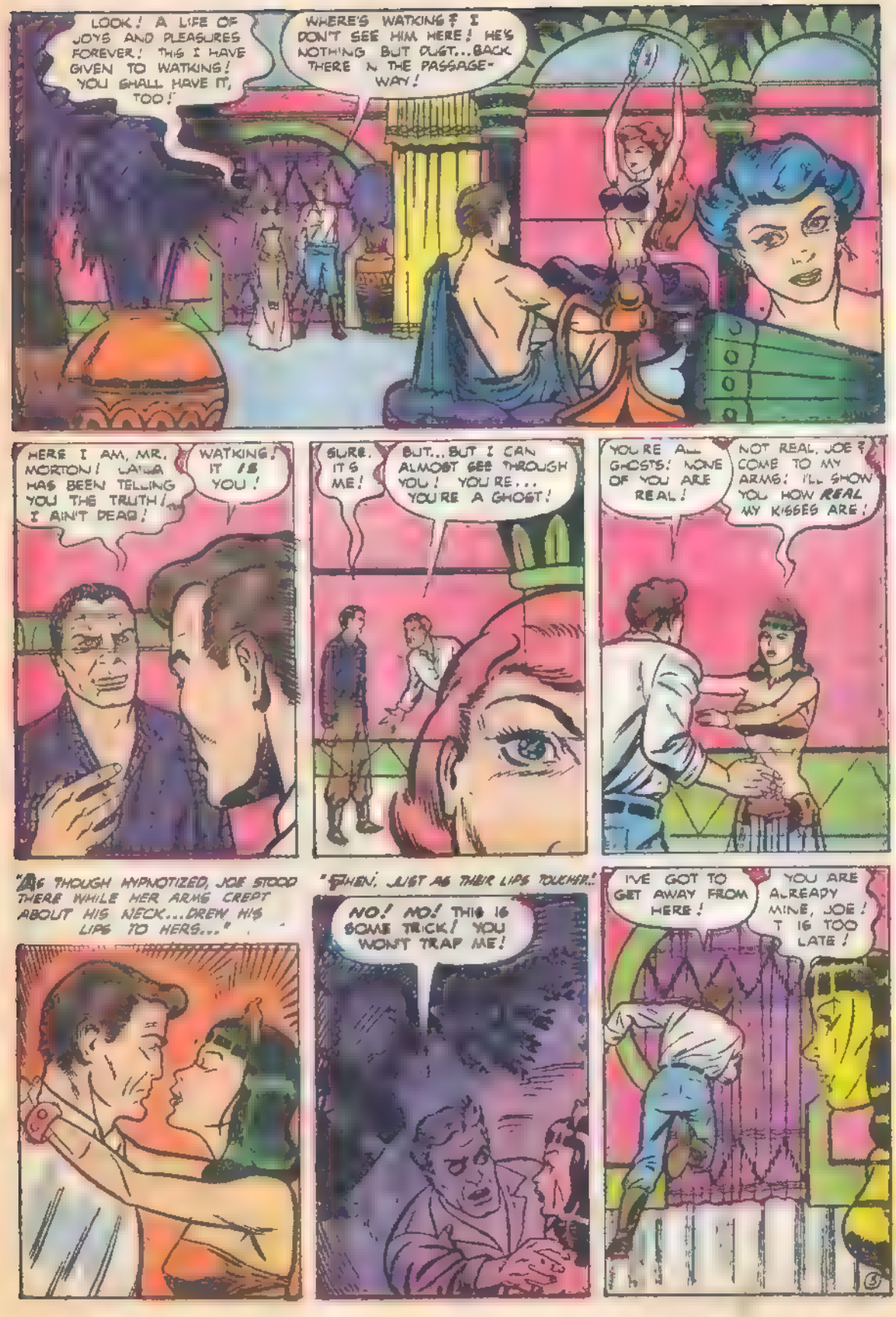




IT'S AS IF SOME VAMPIRE IS CONSTANTLY DRAWING OUT OF HIM EVERY DROP OF MOISTURE!
I'M AFRAID I CANNOT HELP, DOCTOR. I..I... WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM... DOWN THERE...BELOW.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO JOE MORTON? WHAT HE SAW FAR DOWN THERE UNDERGROUND? WELL, IT HAPPENED LAST WEEK, WHEN JOE MORTON GOT A PHONE CALL FROM MINE SHAFT 19..
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BILL? CAN'T YOU HANDLE THIS YOURSELF?
NO, CHIEF! THE MEN FOUND A DOOR ON THE BOTTOM SHELF!
A DOOR? NONSENSE! THEY PROBABLY BROKE INTO THE OPENING OF SOME CAVE!
THIS IS NO CAVE CHIEF! WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE IT!
NO BILL IT ISN'T. THIS MUST BE THE REMAINS OF AN OLD CIVILIZATION BURIED BY THE EARTH HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO. WHO FOUND IT?
WATKINS, THE FOREMAN, FIRST FOUND IT. HE WENT INSIDE OVER TWO HOURS AGO...AND HASN'T COME BACK YET!
WE'LL HAVE TO GO IN AND FIND HIM!
WAIT, MR. MORTON! DON'T GO IN THERE! IT'S EVIL! DYNAMITE THE DOOR AND BURY IT AGAIN!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, MIKE? YOU'VE BEEN WORKING IN THE MINES FOR FORTY YEARS .. YOU'RE NOT AFRAID OF A CAVE, OR SOME BURIED OLD RUINS?

M AFRAID ALL RIGHT! THERE'S MANY A STRANGE TALE I HEARD FROM MY FATHER...AND HE HEARD FROM HIS! THERE'S THINGS ALIVE DEEP DOWN IN THE EARTH! TERRIBLE THINGS, MR. MORTON.
OLD SUPERSTITIONS M'KE! .M A SCIENTIST..AN ENGINEER. I CAN'T BELIEVE IN STUFF LIKE THAT! BESIDES, WATKINS IS IN THERE. WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM. COME ON, BILL!
"SO THEY WENT INSIDE...TWO HARD-HEADED ENGINEERS!"
THIS PLACE GETS MORE AMAZING THE FURTHER IN WE GO! LOOK AT THE ENGINEERING SKILL THAT WENT INTO MAKING THIS PASSAGE!
SURE, CHIEF! AND IT'S KIND OF SCARY, TOO! WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE WHO MADE THIS?
MORE IMPORTANT IS TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR FOREMAN...
THESE ARE MARVELOUS STATUES! MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN THE BEST STATUES THE ANCIENT GREEKS EVER MADE!
LOOK SEE... THERE'S WATKINS!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM, CHIEF? HE DOESN'T MOVE.
WATKINS! WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YOU DOING?
SNAP OUT OF IT, WATKINS! WE'VE COME TO FIND YOU AND...
CHIEF! HE... HE'S TURNED INTO POWDER ...DUST!

WHAT HAPPENED CHIEF? WHERE'S WATKINS? AM I GOING CRAZY?
YOU'RE AS SANE AS I AM, BILL! WE BOTH SAW IT...I TOUCHED WATKINS AND HE TURNED INTO DUST!
GET UP TO THE OFFICE AND REPORT THIS! CALL THE POLICE..THE F.B.I. ..WHOEVER YOU CAN! AND DO IT FAST! I'LL STAY HERE UNTIL YOU COME BACK!
NO CHIEF! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! LOOK AT WHAT HAPPENED TO WATKINS BECAUSE HE STAYED HERE!
DO AS I ORDER YOU! THE WHOLE WORLD MAY BE IN DANGER FROM THIS THING THAT...THAT SUCKED WATKINS DRY AS DUST! HURRY!
ALL RIGHT, CHIEF! BUT BE CAREFUL!
DRY...LIKE A FINE POWDER! THE HUMAN BODY IS, MADE UP MOSTLY OF JUST WATER ...AND A FEW CHEMICALS! SOMETHING DREW ALL THE WATER OUT OF WATKINS' BODY...AND LEFT JUST THE CHEMICALS AS A POWDER!
YOUR FRIEND WATKINS IS NOT DEAD, JOE!
WHAT--! WHO...WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
I AM LALA! THIS IS THE WORLD OF MY PEOPLE WE HAVE LIVED HERE ALWAYS... AND WE LIVE FOREVER!
YOU'VE DONE THIS TO WATKINS! KILLED HIM AND TURNED HIM INTO DUST!
WATKINS LIVES, MY FRIEND! HE WILL LIVE FOREVER! YOU, TOO, CAN WIN ETERNAL LIFE! COME! I WILL SHOW YOU!


LOOK! A LIFE OF JOYS AND PLEASURES FOREVER! THIS I HAVE GIVEN TO WATKINS! YOU SHALL HAVE IT, TOO!
WHERE'S WATKINS? I DON'T SEE HIM HERE! HE'S NOTHING BUT DUST...BACK THERE IN THE PASSAGE-WAY!
HERE I AM, MR. MORTON! LAILA HAS BEEN TELLING YOU THE TRUTH! I AIN'T DEAD!
WATKINS! IT IS YOU!
SURE, IT'S ME!
BUT...BUT I CAN ALMOST SEE THROUGH YOU! YOU'RE... YOU'RE A GHOST!
YOU'RE ALL GHOSTS! NONE OF YOU ARE REAL!
NOT REAL, JOE? COME TO MY ARMS! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW REAL MY KISSES ARE!
"AS THOUGH HYPNOTIZED, JOE STOOD THERE WHILE HER ARMS CREPT ABOUT HIS NECK...DREW HIS LIPS TO HERS..."
"THEN, JUST AS THEIR LIPS TOUCHED!"
NO! NO! THIS IS SOME TRICK! YOU WON'T TRAP ME!
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE!
YOU ARE ALREADY MINE, JOE! IT IS TOO LATE!

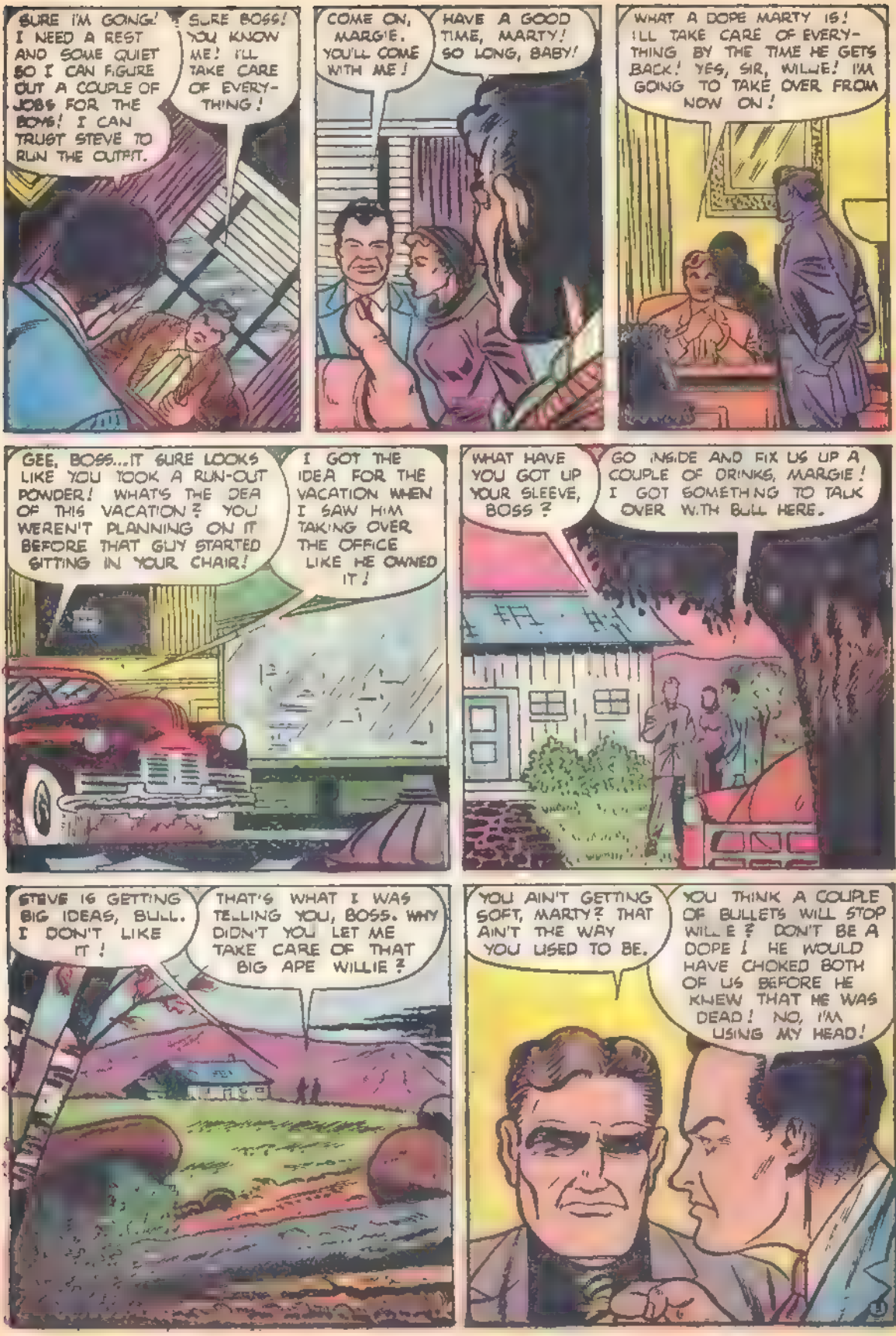
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE. CLOSE UP THE DOORWAY!
COME BACK JOE. YOU CAN NEVER FREE YOURSELF OF ME.
I GOT AWAY FROM HER! THEY HAVE NO POWER TO STOP ME! THEY'RE ONLY GHOSTS... WRAITHS.
LAILA! IN FRONT OF ME! HOW...HOW DID YOU GET AHEAD!
I TRAVEL AS SWIFTLY AS THOUGHT, JOE! STOP BEFORE IT REALLY BE TOO LATE!
NEVER! I'VE GOT TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THINGS LIKE YOU!
YOU CAN LIVE HERE ONLY, JOE! OUTSIDE, YOU WILL KNOW ONLY LIVING DEATH! STAY HERE!
I CAN READ YOUR MIND... I KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS, JOE! YOU WILL BE SORRY FOR WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO DO!
SORRY FOR SAVING HUMANITY FROM YOU? NEVER!
MIKE! GIVE ME THAT DYNAMITE! QUICK!
CURSE YOU, LAILA! YOU AND YOUR DEMONS SHALL STAY BURIED BELOW FOREVER!

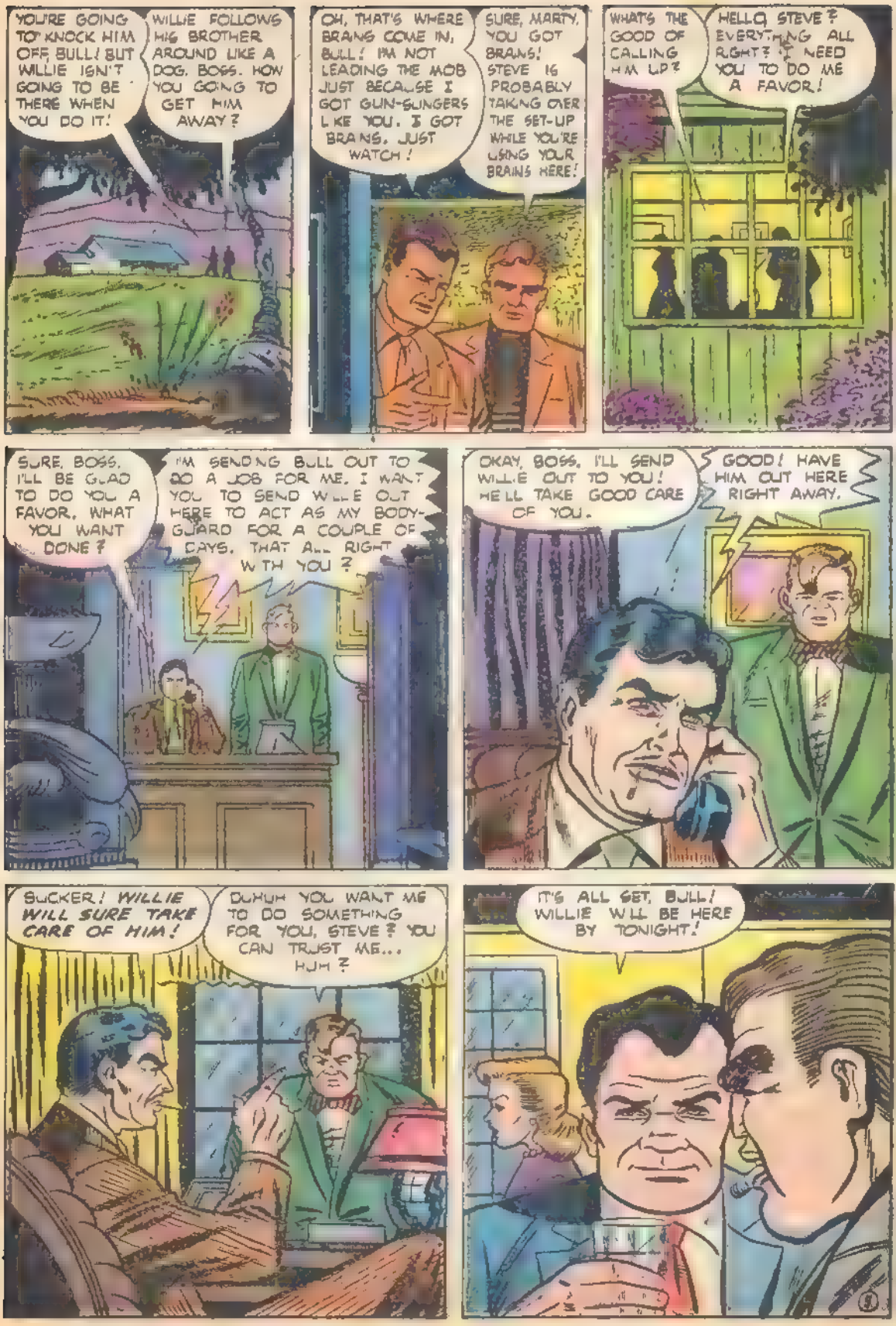
HURRY! MR. MORTON IS HURT / WE GOTTA GET HIM TO THE HOSPITAL FAST!
HE'S OUT COLD!
WATER! WATER! I'M DRYING UP! WATER! YOU WERE RIGHT, LAILA. TAKE ME BACK... TAKE ME BACK! WATER... WATER!
STRANGE... HE HAS NO FEVER, BUT HE'S DELIRIOUS! WHO IS LAILA?
I TOLD YOU ALL I KNOW, DOCTOR. I NEVER HEARD OF THIS LAILA... AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AFTER I LEFT HIM!
STRANGEST CASE OF DEHYDRATION I EVER CAME ACROSS. HE'LL LIVE AS LONG AS WE KEEP GIVING HIM WATER... THE MOMENT WE STOP--HE STARTS TO DRY OUT!
IS THERE ..IS THERE NO HOPE FOR HIS RECOVERY?
I'LL CALL IN SPECIALISTS. BUT I'M AFRAID IT'S HOPELESS! HE'S DOOMED TO A LIVING DEATH UNLESS WE FIND OUT WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH HIM!
THERE GOES THE SPECIALIST... AND HE'S NO NEARER UNDERSTANDING WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH JOE MORTON THAN THE HOSPITAL DOCTOR!
WE KNOW WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH HIM, DON'T WE? THE DEMONS BELOW HAVE GRIPPED JOE MORTON'S BODY AND SOUL... AND THEY'LL NEVER LET GO! NEVER!
BUT DON'T GO AWAY, READERS! I'VE GOT ANOTHER TALE TO TELL... A TALE THAT WILL TAKE YOU ALONG WITH ME ON A JOURNEY INTO THE REALMS OF THE STRANGE AND TERRIFYING!

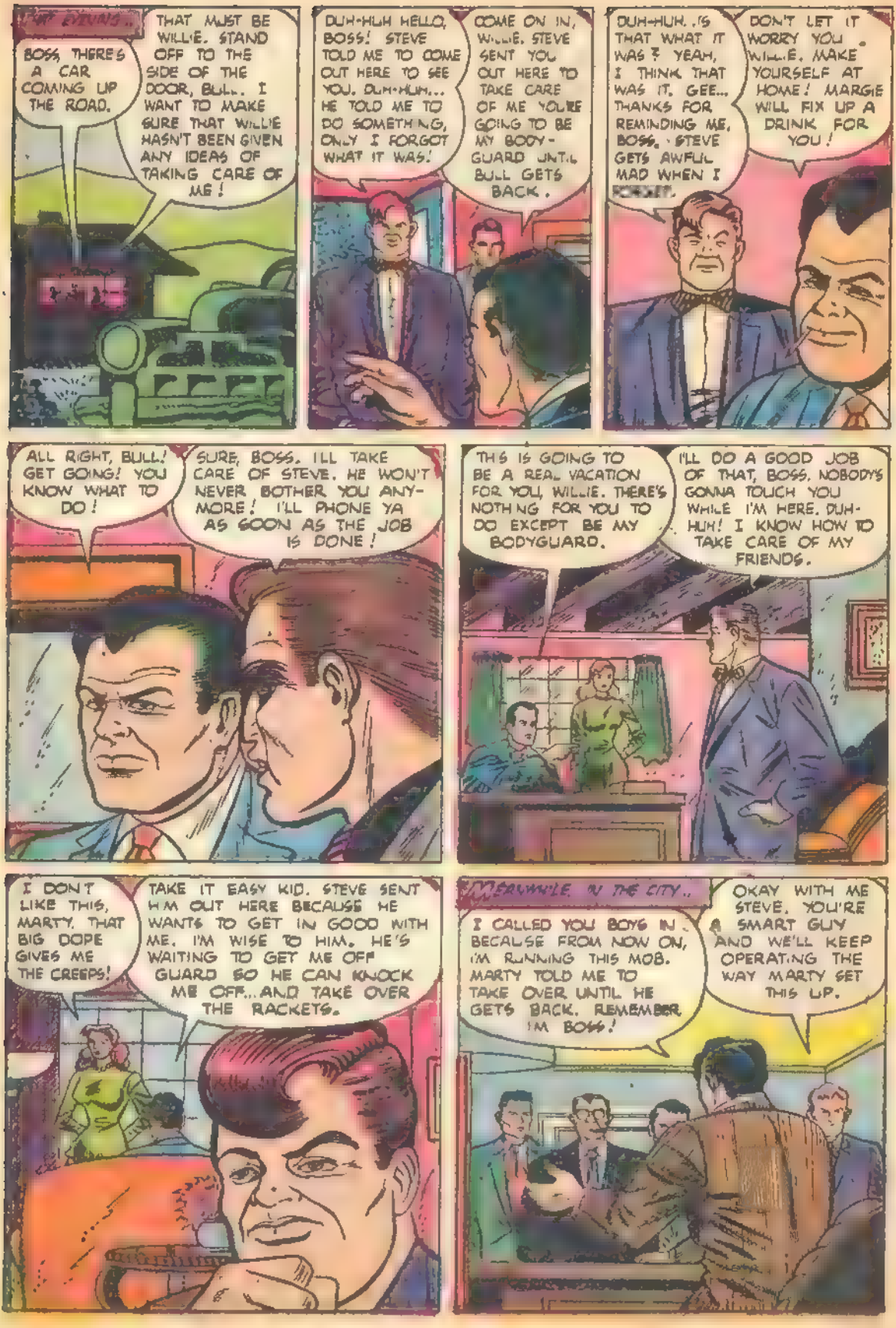
"WILLIE"

HE AIN'T HUMAN, BOSS? WITH ALL THEM BULLETS...HE DON'T GO DOWN!
DUHUH! YOU GUYS ARE SHOOTING ME! THAT AIN'T NICE: DUHUH! I DON'T LIKE IT!
WILLIE BROWN WAS HUMAN, ALL RIGHT! NOT VERY BRIGHT, TRUE. AND THERE WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HIM...FOR SOMEHOW FATE TOOK A HAND IN THE WEIRD BYWAYS OF HIS LIFE...AND TWISTED IT INTO ONE OF THE STRANGEST TALES I HAVE EVER TOLD!
FATE PLAYED MANY QUEER TRICKS ON WILLIE, BUT THE STRANGEST OF ALL BEGAN IN THE OFFICE OF MARTY KING, BOSS OF THE RACKET SYNDICATE...
BETTER NOT LET THE BOSS CATCH YOU SITTING IN HIS CHAIR, STEVE. HE MIGHT THINK YOU'RE GETTING IDEAS!
I AM, BABY. I SURE AM!
LOOK, MARGIE, MARTY KING IS GETTING SOFT! I'M THE NEXT GUY IN LINE TO TAKE OVER THE RACKETS!
WHEN YOU TAKE OVER THE MOB, MAYBE I'LL GET INTERESTED IN YOU. BUT NOW, YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR STEP, STEVE. YOU MIGHT GET HURT!
DUHUH! WHO'S GONNA HURT MY BROTHER, HUH? I WOULDN'T LIKE THAT!

RELAX, WILLIE, RELAX! NOBODY'S GOING TO HURT ME WHILE I'VE GOT YOU FOR A BODYGLARD! MARGIE WAS JUST TELLING ME THAT SHE AND I ARE GOING PLACES WHEN I BECOME BOSS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY CHAIR, STEVE? TRYING IT OUT FOR SIZE?
HOWYA, BOSS! I WAS JUST SITTING!... DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT!
WHAT D'YA MEAN JUST SITTING? DAT'S THE BOSS' CHAIR... AND NOBODY'S SUPPOSED TO USE IT!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFFA MY BROTHER! DUH-HUH! I DON'T LIKE IT! I DON'T LET NOBODY PUT A HAND ON MY BROTHER!
PUT YOUR ROD AWAY, BULL! YOU ASKED FOR WHAT YOU GOT FROM WILLIE!
I DON'T TAKE A SOCK IN THE JAW FROM THAT DOPEY APE, MARTY! LEMME FIX HIM!
YOU'LL DO WHAT I SAY, BULL! KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT. I'M HANDLING THIS.
ALL RIGHT, BOSS! BUT NEXT TIME THAT NUT LAYS A HAND ON ME ...I'M GONNA KILL HIM!
YOU CAN JUST GO RIGHT ON SITTING THERE, STEVE. IN FACT, I'M GOING TO LET YOU RUN THE RACKETS FOR ME. I'M GOING TO MY HUNTING LODGE TO LAY LOW FOR A WHILE!
YOU WHAT? LEAVING TOWN? YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT, MARTY?


SURE I'M GOING! I NEED A REST AND SOME QUIET SO I CAN FIGURE OUT A COUPLE OF JOBS FOR THE BOYS! I CAN TRUST STEVE TO RUN THE OUTFIT.
SURE BOSS! YOU KNOW ME! I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERY-THING!
COME ON, MARGIE. YOU'LL COME WITH ME!
HAVE A GOOD TIME, MARTY! SO LONG, BABY!
WHAT A DOPE MARTY IS! I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERY-THING BY THE TIME HE GETS BACK! YES, SIR, WILLIE! I'M GOING TO TAKE OVER FROM NOW ON!
GEE, BOSS...IT SURE LOOKS LIKE YOU TOOK A RUN-OUT POWDER! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THIS VACATION? YOU WEREN'T PLANNING ON IT BEFORE THAT GUY STARTED SITTING IN YOUR CHAIR!
I GOT THE IDEA FOR THE VACATION WHEN I SAW HIM TAKING OVER THE OFFICE LIKE HE OWNED IT!
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT UP YOUR SLEEVE, BOSS?
GO INSIDE AND FIX US UP A COUPLE OF DRINKS, MARGIE! I GOT SOMETHING TO TALK OVER WITH BULL HERE.
STEVE IS GETTING BIG IDEAS, BULL. I DON'T LIKE IT!
THAT'S WHAT I WAS TELLING YOU, BOSS. WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME TAKE CARE OF THAT BIG APE WILLIE?
YOU AIN'T GETTING SOFT, MARTY? THAT AIN'T THE WAY YOU USED TO BE.
YOU THINK A COUPLE OF BULLETS WILL STOP WILLIE? DON'T BE A DOPE! HE WOULD HAVE CHOKED BOTH OF US BEFORE HE KNEW THAT HE WAS DEAD! NO, I'M USING MY HEAD!


YOU'RE GOING TO KNOCK HIM OFF, BULL! BUT WILLIE ISN'T GOING TO BE THERE WHEN YOU DO IT!
WILLIE FOLLOWS HIS BROTHER AROUND LIKE A DOG. BOSS. HOW YOU GOING TO GET HIM AWAY?
OH, THAT'S WHERE BRAINS COME IN, BULL! I'M NOT LEADING THE MOB JUST BECAUSE I GOT GUN-SLINGERS LIKE YOU. I GOT BRAINS. JUST WATCH!
SURE, MARTY, YOU GOT BRAINS! STEVE IS PROBABLY TAKING OVER THE SET-UP WHILE YOU'RE USING YOUR BRAINS HERE!
WHAT'S THE GOOD OF CALLING HIM UP?
HELLO, STEVE? EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT? I NEED YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR!
SURE, BOSS. I'LL BE GLAD TO DO YOU A FAVOR. WHAT YOU WANT DONE?
I'M SENDING BULL OUT TO DO A JOB FOR ME. I WANT YOU TO SEND WILLIE OUT HERE TO ACT AS MY BODY-GUARD FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS. THAT ALL RIGHT WITH YOU?
OKAY, BOSS, I'LL SEND WILLIE OUT TO YOU! HE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU.
GOOD! HAVE HIM OUT HERE RIGHT AWAY.
SUCKER! WILLIE WILL SURE TAKE CARE OF HIM!
DUHUH YOU WANT ME TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU, STEVE? YOU CAN TRUST ME... HUH?
IT'S ALL SET, BULL! WILLIE WILL BE HERE BY TONIGHT!


LATER EVENING..
BOSS, THERE'S A CAR COMING UP THE ROAD.
THAT MUST BE WILLIE. STAND OFF TO THE SIDE OF THE DOOR, BULL. I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WILLIE HASN'T BEEN GIVEN ANY IDEAS OF TAKING CARE OF ME!
DUH-HUH HELLO, BOSS! STEVE TOLD ME TO COME OUT HERE TO SEE YOU. DUH-HUH... HE TOLD ME TO DO SOMETHING, ONLY I FORGOT WHAT IT WAS!
COME ON IN, WILLIE. STEVE SENT YOU OUT HERE TO TAKE CARE OF ME YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY BODY-GUARD UNTIL BULL GETS BACK.
DUH-HUH..IS THAT WHAT IT WAS? YEAH, I THINK THAT WAS IT. GEE... THANKS FOR REMINDING ME, BOSS. STEVE GETS AWFUL MAD WHEN I FORGET.
DON'T LET IT WORRY YOU WILLIE. MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME! MARGIE WILL FIX UP A DRINK FOR YOU!
ALL RIGHT, BULL! GET GOING! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!
SURE, BOSS. I'LL TAKE CARE OF STEVE. HE WON'T NEVER BOTHER YOU ANY-MORE! I'LL PHONE YA AS SOON AS THE JOB IS DONE!
THIS IS GOING TO BE A REAL VACATION FOR YOU, WILLIE. THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO DO EXCEPT BE MY BODYGUARD.
I'LL DO A GOOD JOB OF THAT, BOSS. NOBODY'S GONNA TOUCH YOU WHILE I'M HERE. DUH-HUH! I KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF MY FRIENDS.
I DON'T LIKE THIS, MARTY. THAT BIG DOPE GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
TAKE IT EASY KID. STEVE SENT HIM OUT HERE BECAUSE HE WANTS TO GET IN GOOD WITH ME. I'M WISE TO HIM. HE'S WAITING TO GET ME OFF GUARD SO HE CAN KNOCK ME OFF...AND TAKE OVER THE RACKETS.
MEANWHILE, IN THE CITY..
I CALLED YOU BOYS IN BECAUSE FROM NOW ON, I'M RUNNING THIS MOB. MARTY TOLD ME TO TAKE OVER UNTIL HE GETS BACK. REMEMBER, I'M BOSS!
OKAY WITH ME STEVE. YOU'RE A SMART GUY AND WE'LL KEEP OPERATING THE WAY MARTY SET THIS UP.

WHAT IF MARTY AIN'T COMING BACK? HE PUT YOU IN FOR NOW ...WHO'S GONNA BE THE BOSS IF SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO MARTY?
I STAY ON AS BOSS!
YOU OR ANYBODY ELSE GOT ANY OBJECTIONS?
NO! NO, I AIN'T GOT NO OBJECTIONS, STEVE!
I GOT A COUPLE OF OBJECTIONS! ONE FROM ME... AND ONE FROM MARTY!
BULL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DON'T MARTY TELL YA? HE WAS SENDING ME OUT ON A JOB STEVE. THIS IS THE JOB!
WAT A MINUTE, BULL! DON'T SHOOT ME! YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE!
YOU'RE THE GUY WHO MADE THE MISTAKE, STEVE! YOU FELL INTO THE BOSS' TRAP...LIKE A SUCKER!
I'M GONNA PHONE MARTY AND TELL HIM I TOOK CARE OF STEVE BROWN! A COUPLE OF YOU GUYS GET RID OF THE BODY!
WHAT'S THAT, BULL? SOMEBODY KILLED STEVE? THAT'S TOUGH! I'LL HAVE TO BREAK THE NEWS TO WILLIE.

I GOT BAD NEWS, WILLIE. STEVE WAS KILLED...
STEVE KILLED DUH-HUH HE WANTED ME TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM! KILL STEVE. GEE I FORGOT. MAYBE IF I TRIED HARD, I COULD REMEMBER.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ABOUT. WILLIE! CAN'T YOU T THROUGH YOUR HEAD? STEVE'S BEEN KILLED! YOUR BROTHER
DUH-HUH I REMEMBERED WHAT HE WANTED ME TO DO MARTY YOU REMINDED ME WHEN YOU SAID, STEVE WAS KILLED STEVE WANTED YOU KILLED!
STAY AWAY FROM ME OR I'LL AFE STAY AWAY OR I'LL FILL YOU WITH LEAD.
DUH-HUH, I'M SORRY MARTY! BUT STEVE SAID I WAS TO KILL YOU. AND I ALWAYS DO WHAT STEVE TELLS ME TO!
I GOT YOU NOW, MARTY! YOU CAN'T BACK AWAY NO MORE.
YOU DUMB GORILLA, I'LL FILL YOU SO FULL OF
I ALWAYS DO WHAT STEVE TELLS ME!
STEVE SAID I WAS TO BRING YOU WITH ME BACK TO THE CITY I ALWAYS DO AAAAAAH!
WHAT DID I TELL YOU? FATE CERTAINLY PLAYED A STRANGE TRICK ON POOR, SIMPLE-MINDED WILLIE! BUT DON'T GO AWAY, FRIEND. WHEN IT COMES TO TALES THAT ARE WEIRD AND STRANGE ...I'VE GOT LOTS MORE OF THEM

"THE 24th GUEST!"

By THE TELLER OF TALES

JIM WILSON was unusual when it came to reporters. He had a mind like a steel trap . . . and a nose for news that couldn't be matched. That's what made him the finest newspaperman who ever lived.

Jim isn't around any more. He's gone. Vanished like one of the missing persons he had been looking for. His old editor still wonders what ever became of Jim; hopes that some day his greatest reporter will come back. But Jim Wilson isn't coming back. Ever.

I know. I was there when he found the clue to his last story. That's why Jim isn't coming back. He was too good a reporter. He couldn't be allowed to walk on Earth and write his stories. He knew too much! He had to disappear. He disappeared!

Jim found the last clue in the little lunchwagon opposite Central Park, just across the street from the entrance to the Park Zoo.

He was sitting there, drinking a cup of coffee, when Ian Martok, the science editor of the paper, walked in.

"Hello, Jim," Ian said. "What are you doing around here this late?"

"Have a cup of coffee," Jim replied. "The night's young. It isn't twelve yet."

"Don't mind if I do," Martok said, sitting down on the stool beside Jim.

The waitress brought over a cup of coffee and placed it in front of Martok.

"Following a story?" Martok asked, stirring his coffee slowly.

"A hot one," Jim replied. "So hot, I'm a little scared."

Martok gave a short, sharp whistle. "That good, eh?"

"Better," Jim said. "I'm just wondering whether to call Washington or the editor. I don't think either one will believe me."

Martok shrugged his shoulders. "Well, I'm just the science editor. Not a reporter. I hope you know what you're doing."

Jim scratched his chin thoughtfully. "You know, maybe it's a good thing I bumped into you."

"Me?" Martok asked.

"You," Jim repeated. "But first I want to ask you a question. What are you doing around here?"

"Why, I live just a block down the street. I thought I'd stop by for a cup of coffee."

Jim scratched his chin some more and brooded silently. Then he turned to Ian. "I'm going to let you in on my story."

"Oh, no! If it's as hot and dangerous as you hint, I'm including myself out of it."

"I just want your opinion."

"If that's all you want, okay," Martok agreed.

"Well, it began about a week ago," Jim said. "I got suspicious of the reports put out by the Missing Persons Bureau."

"Suspicious?" Martok asked. "What was unusual about them?"

"Three weeks ago, the number of people who disappeared for no apparent reason jumped. I went through the weekly reports going back for the last ten years. Got a general average of the number of people usually reported missing. But the figures for the past three weeks ran 24 persons over that average."

"Could be a coincidence."

"Could be. But I don't believe it. I checked on everyone on the list. Usually, there's some reason for a person disappearing. But I found 24 people had *absolutely no reason* for disappearing. And these 24 people were the kind who are useful!"

"Useful? I don't get it."

"Doctors, nurses, engineers, machinists. Twelve were men, twelve were women. All were unmarried!" Jim explained.

"And it was the same for each of the past three weeks?" Martok asked, becoming interested.

"Exactly," Jim said. "So I figure it isn't a coincidence. I figure some more, and find that there's a story somewhere."

"What brought you here?" Martok asked.

"A girl named Jean Morgan."

"Jean Morgan?" Martok said. "That name sounds familiar.

"It ought to," Jim remarked. "You wrote an article about her a week ago. About her and the glassteel experiments she had been doing in some laboratory."

"Of course! That's the girl who discovered a glass as strong as steel!"

"Correct," Jim said. "I've been following her around for a week."

"Why?"

"I had a hunch she was going to disappear," Jim said. "So I followed her here."

Martok looked around. Except for the two of them, the lunchwagon was empty.

"I don't see her," Martok said, puzzled.

"She went across the street to the Zoo," Jim said. "So did some other people. I counted 23 going inside."

"But the Zoo is closed at this hour," Mar-

tok said.

"Not for 23 people," Jim said. "I saw them go in. And I might have missed one."

"I know Dr. Dartin, the Curator of the Zoo," Martok said. "Want to call on him?"

"I was thinking of doing that, when you walked in here," Jim laughed. "That's when I thought of maybe calling the FBI or the editor."

"Come on," Martok said. "You've made me curious enough to stick my nose into your story. Let's have a talk with Mr. Dartin."

Jim tossed a quarter on the counter and followed his friend out.

Only the light from the Zoo Curator's house could be seen as they approached. The lights on the lamp posts were broken. But once on the path, they had no trouble finding the door of Dr. Dartin's house.

A touch on the bell, and soon the door was opened. A slight, handsome man stood in the doorway.

"Ian Martok!" he exclaimed. "Come in! Glad to see you! Bring your friend in, too."

"It's a bit late for a call," Martok began to apologize.

"I've got other guests," Dr. Dartin interrupted. "You're welcome."

He led Jim Wilson and Ian Marok down a carpeted passage. Throwing open a door, he motioned them into a large living room.

Jim stopped in the doorway, somewhat startled, for across the room, smiling at him, was Jean Morgan.

"Martok!" he whispered. "That girl I told you about . . . she's there."

Martok chuckled. "Well, go over to her and say 'hello'!"

There was no need for that, for the moment Jean saw them, she started across the room toward the newcomers.

"Hello," Jean said. "I know you."

"You do?" Jim stammered.

"Of course," she replied, laughing. "You've been following me for a week. Well, let me introduce myself . . ."

"I know who you are," Jim said. "I'd like to know why you're here, though."

Jean smiled. "Perhaps Dr. Dartin can explain." She motioned and Dartin and Martok joined them.

"Jim Wilson wants to know why I'm here," she said.

"Tell him," Dr. Dartin smiled.

She turned to Jim, then, and the smile left her face. "Suppose you knew that the next war . . . an atomic war . . . would probably destroy all life on this world, Jim. What would you do?"

"I'd try to stop the war at any cost."

"That's right. What else would you do? Would you take out some form of . . . let's say, *insurance?* To make sure that if a war does come—not *all* humans would die?"

Swiftly, Jim's eyes swept around the room, studying each face there.

"Do you mean that you . . . and these others," he gestured to cover everyone there, "are the insurance?"

"Yes," Jean said. "Every week, for the past three weeks, twenty-four of us are picked to leave this Earth."

"Where do you go?"

"To Mars!"

"Mars! But we don't have interplanetary travel? What about space ships?" Jim floundered in his search for the right words to express his confused thoughts.

"We don't have space ships, Jim. But our Martian friends have. And they are kind enough to help us!" Jean said.

"I don't believe it!"

"It's true, Jim," Ian Martok said quietly. "I am a Martian!"

"And I," Dr. Dartin said.

"Somebody is pulling a gag on me, Martok!" Jim said, with a nervous smile.

"It's no gag, Jim," Jean said, taking his arm. "Come over here to the window. It's almost twelve and the space ship is due in . . . a flying saucer, Jim."

They walked to the window, Jim beginning to enjoy the situation for Jean was pretty enough to make him tingle all over at the touch of her hand.

As they approached the window, there was a gentle hush . . . as though the air around the building suddenly felt lighter. A moment later, a round, dull object settled on the grass lawn not far from the house.

"The space ship," Jean announced.

The others in the room gathered up their small belongings and walked through the door and outside. Martok, Dartin and Jean came to stand beside Jim at the window.

"Do you believe it now, Jim?" Martok asked.

"Yes, I believe. But no one will believe the story I'll write," Jim said.

"You're not going to write the story, Jim. Not for our paper, anyway," Martok announced.

"What do you mean?" Jim asked, turning on him quickly.

"Did you count the passengers?"

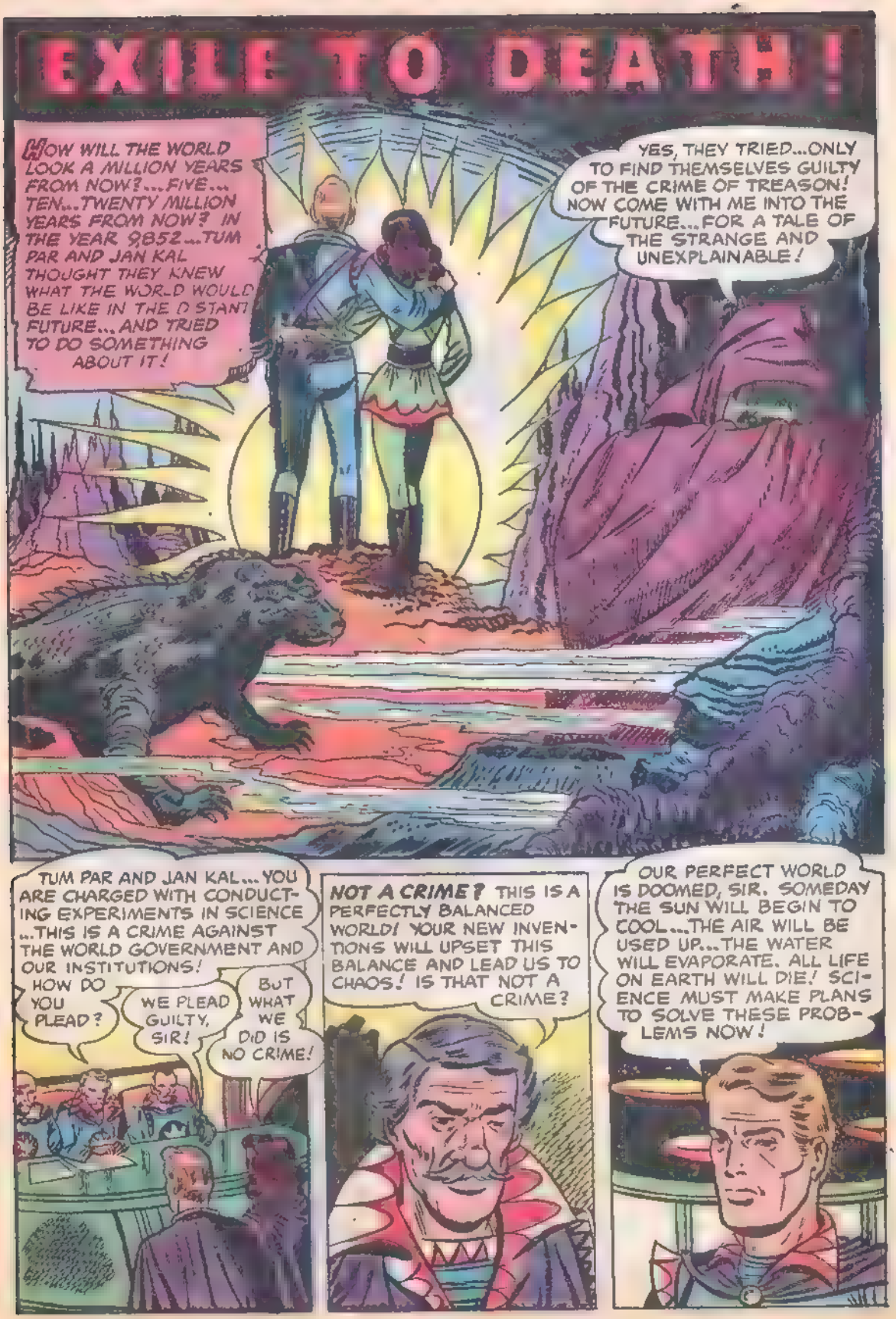
"Yes," Jim said. "Twenty-two. And Jean, I guess is going," he said, turning to her. "That makes twenty-three . . ."

"And you make twenty-four, Jim Wilson!" Dr. Dartin announced.

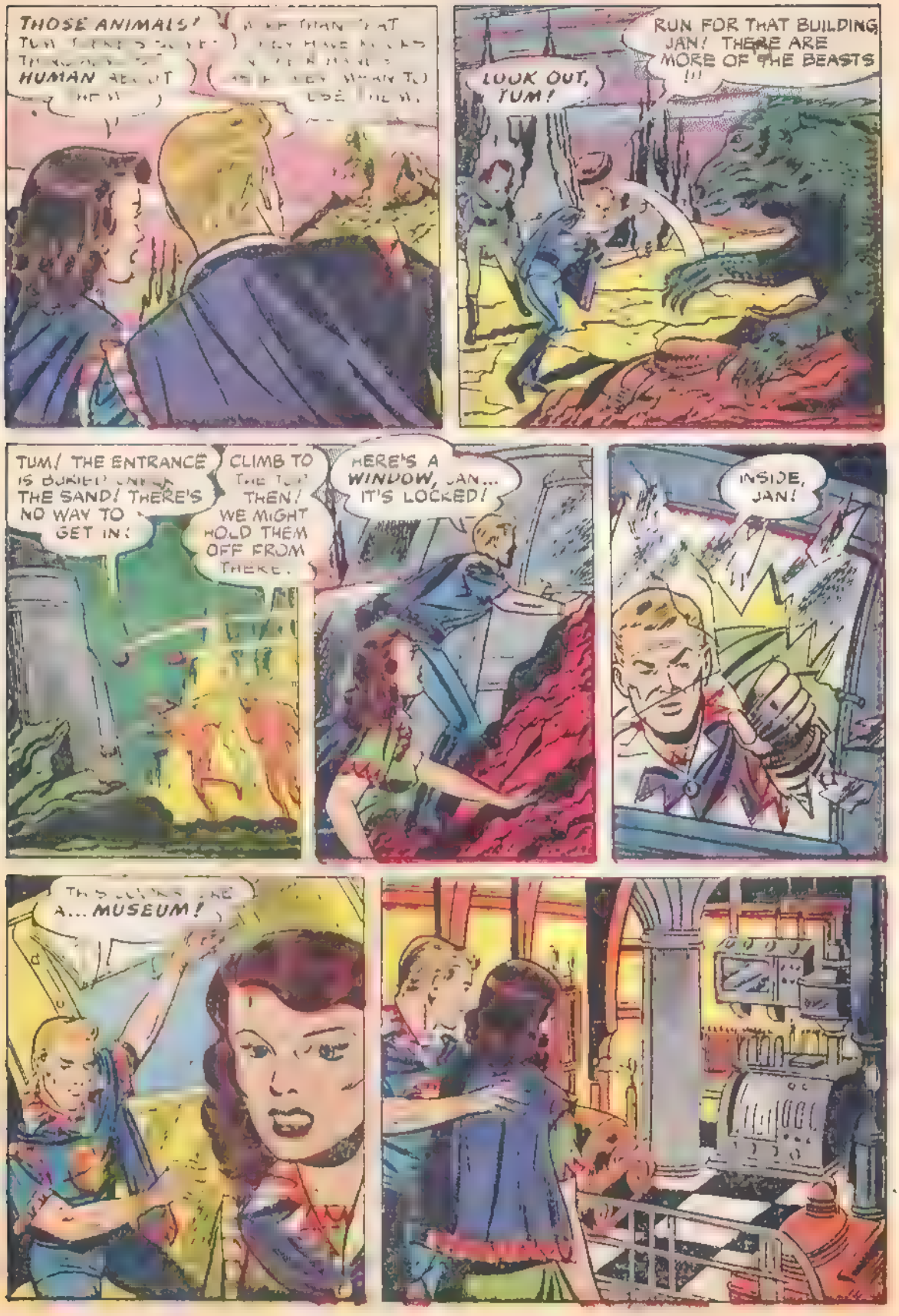
"It is time," Jean Morgan said.

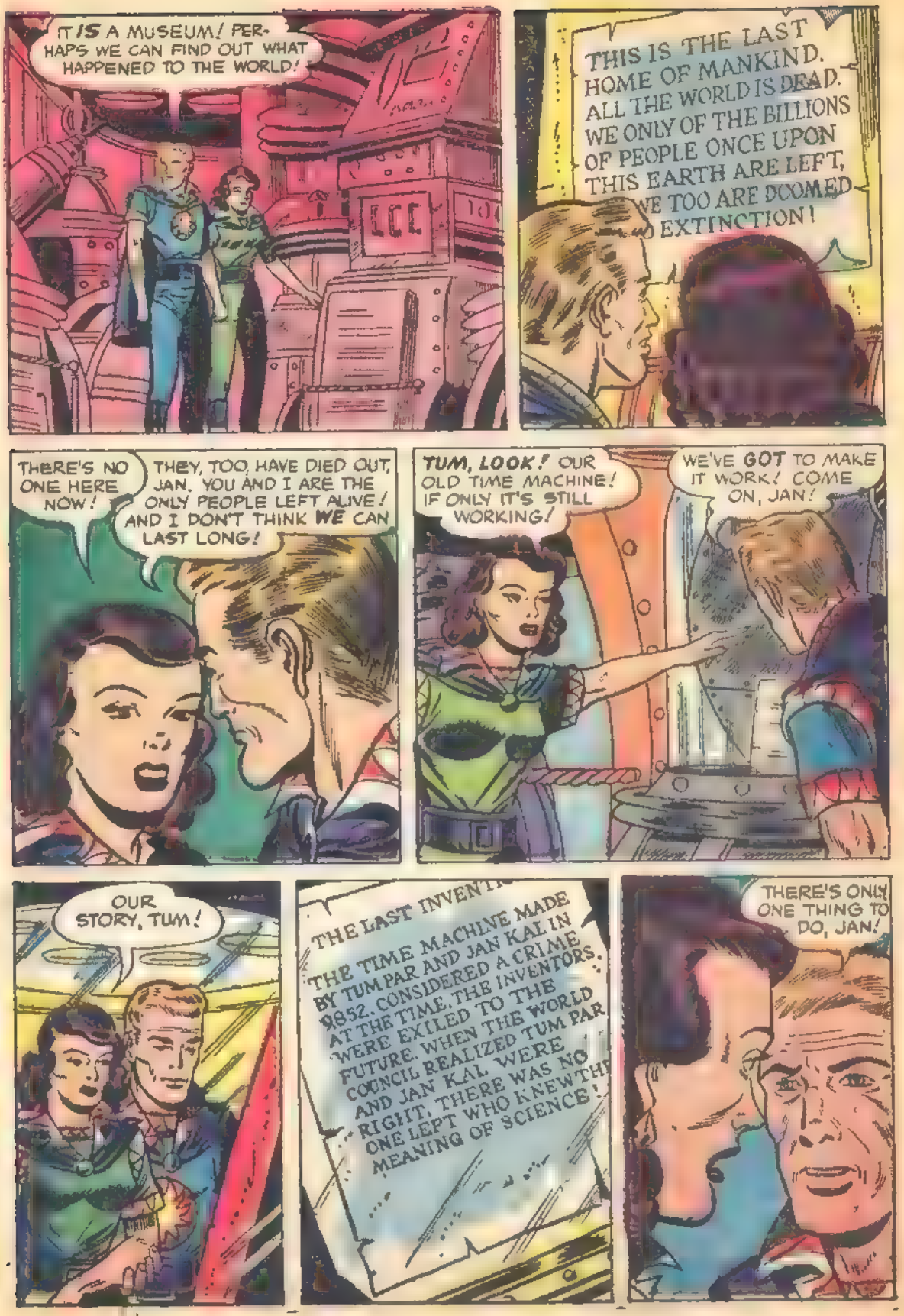
Jim Wilson had no power to resist as Jean took him by the arm and led him across the lawn to the space ship—the last few steps he took on earth!

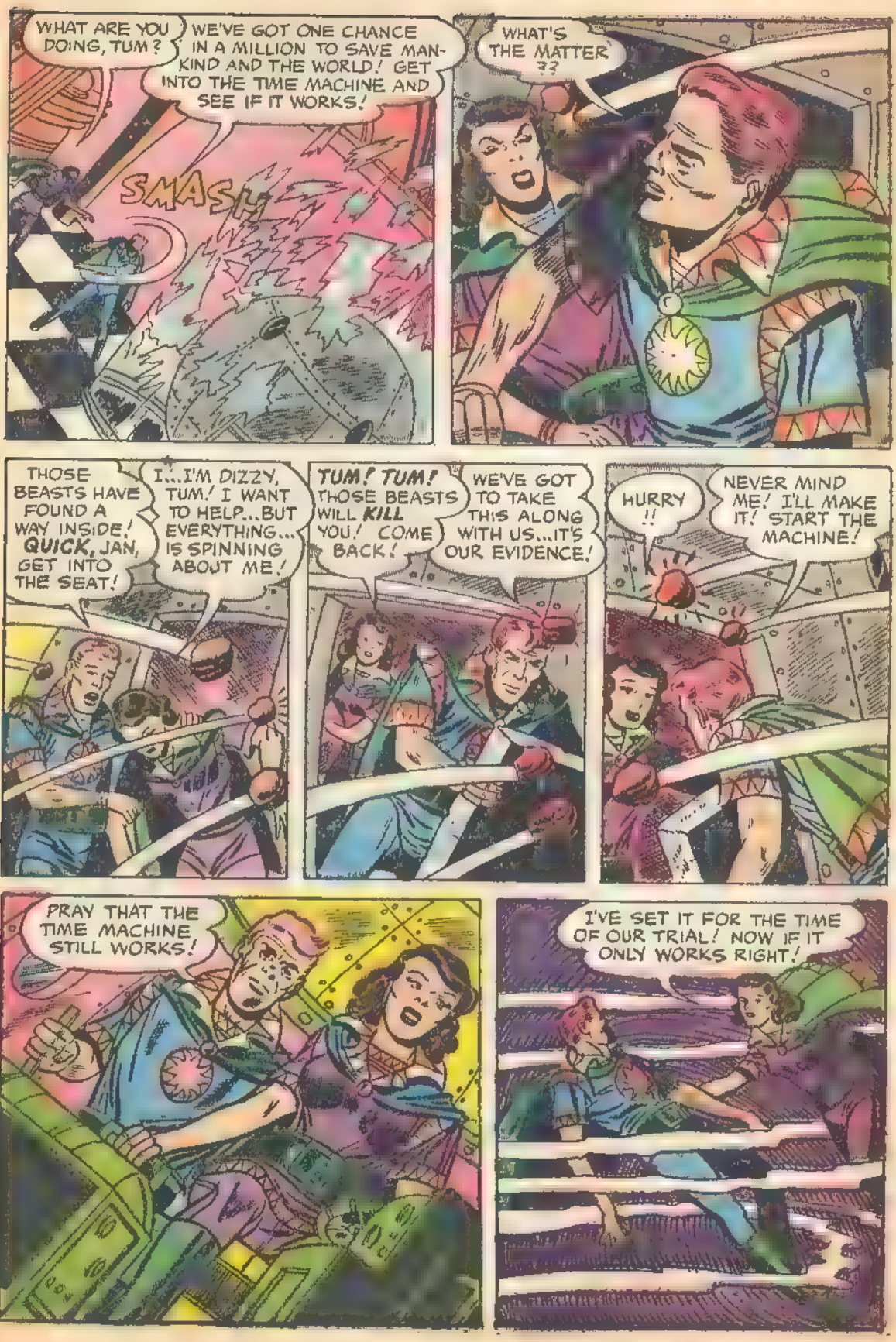
THE END

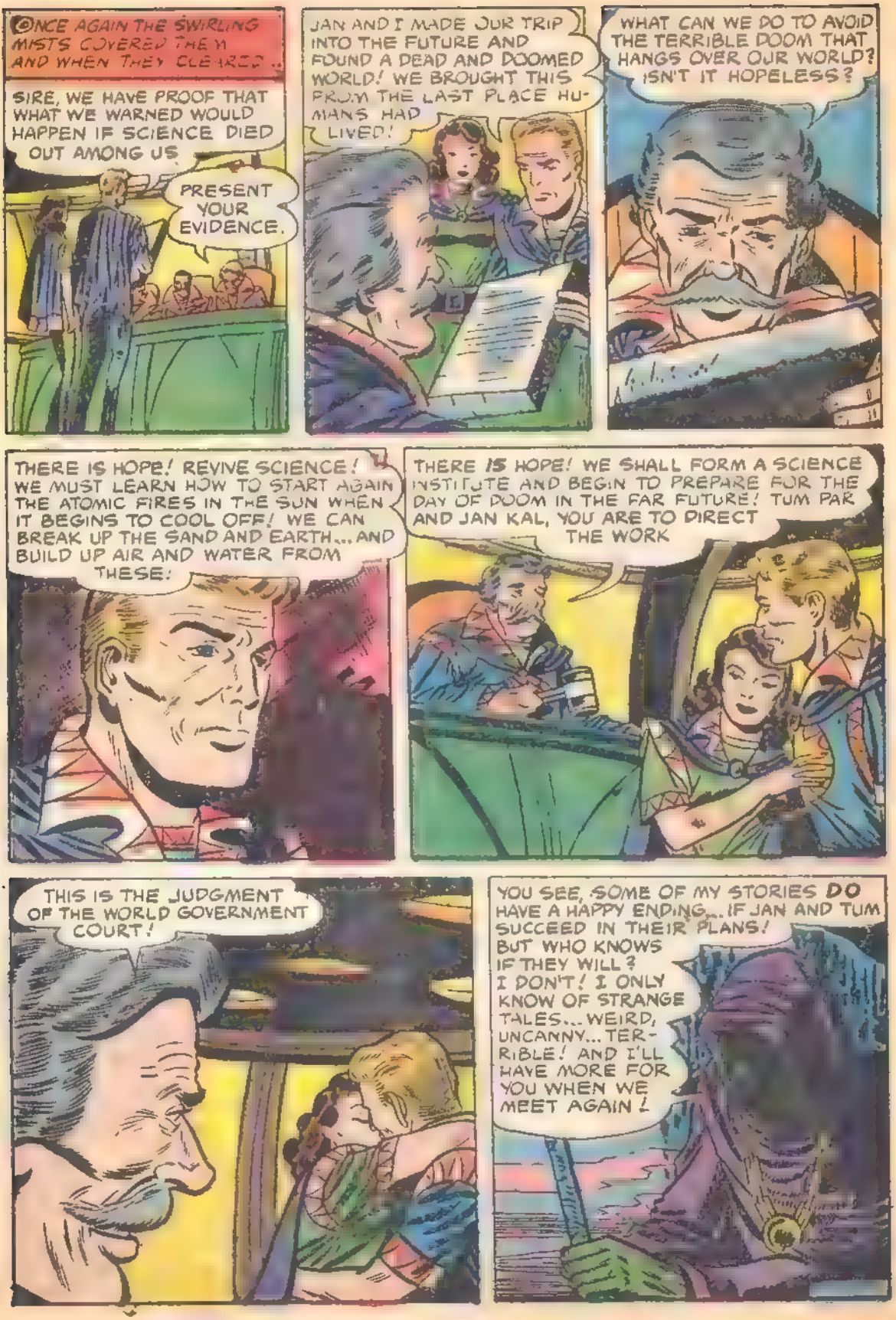

EXILE TO DEATH!
HOW WILL THE WORLD LOOK A MILLION YEARS FROM NOW?...FIVE... TEN...TWENTY MILLION YEARS FROM NOW? IN THE YEAR 9,852...TUM PAR AND JAN KAL THOUGHT THEY KNEW WHAT THE WORLD WOULD BE LIKE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE...AND TRIED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
YES, THEY TRIED...ONLY TO FIND THEMSELVES GUILTY OF THE CRIME OF TREASON! NOW COME WITH ME INTO THE FUTURE...FOR A TALE OF THE STRANGE AND UNEXPLAINABLE!
TUM PAR AND JAN KAL...YOU ARE CHARGED WITH CONDUCTING EXPERIMENTS IN SCIENCE ...THIS IS A CRIME AGAINST THE WORLD GOVERNMENT AND OUR INSTITUTIONS!
HOW DO YOU PLEAD?
WE PLEAD GUILTY, SIR!
BUT WHAT WE DID IS NO CRIME!
NOT A CRIME? THIS IS A PERFECTLY BALANCED WORLD! YOUR NEW INVENTIONS WILL UPSET THIS BALANCE AND LEAD US TO CHAOS! IS THAT NOT A CRIME?
OUR PERFECT WORLD IS DOOMED, SIR. SOMEDAY THE SUN WILL BEGIN TO COOL...THE AIR WILL BE USED UP...THE WATER WILL EVAPORATE. ALL LIFE ON EARTH WILL DIE! SCIENCE MUST MAKE PLANS TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS NOW!

OUR MACHINES HAVE RUN PERFECTLY FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS AND WILL CONTINUE TO THE END OF TIME! EVERYTHING THE PEOPLE NEED IS MADE BY THE MACHINES!
AND WHAT IF THE MACHINES BREAK DOWN? WE HAVE NO SCIENTISTS TO REPAIR THEM...EVEN THE MEANING OF SCIENCE WILL BE FORGOTTEN
YOU SPEAK TREASON! THIS COURT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FINDS YOU GUILTY! WE SENTENCE YOU TO ETERNAL EXILE INTO THE FUTURE... THE VERY INVENTION YOU MADE—THE TIME MACHINE—WILL CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE!
THE SENTENCE WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT ONCE!
WE HAVE LOST, JAN DEAR!
NOT WE, TUM, THE WORLD IS THE LOSER!
THERE IS JUSTICE IN YOUR PUNISHMENT! IN THE FUTURE WORLD TO WHICH YOU ARE GOING, YOU WILL SEE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN WRONG! EVERYTHING WILL STILL BE RUNNING PERFECTLY!
I HOPE WE ARE WRONG! BUT I'M AFRAID...
OH, TUM! WHAT SHALL WE FIND WHEN WE ARRIVE ...MILLIONS OF YEARS IN THE FUTURE?
WE SHALL FIND HOW RIGHT WE HAVE BEEN, DEAR. IT WILL BE A DEAD AND DOOMED WORLD!
WHEN THE SWIRLING MIST COVERING THEM CLEARED AWAY...
YOU ARE RIGHT! WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A DEAD WORLD!
IT'S COLD, TUM. THE SUN BARELY HAS STRENGTH TO LIGHT THE LAND. DO YOU THINK THERE ARE ANY PEOPLE LEFT ALIVE?
THERE IS A BUILDING OFF IN THE DISTANCE, JAN. PERHAPS WE CAN FIND OUT THERE.


THOSE ANIMALS!
HUMAN
LOOK OUT, TUM!
RUN FOR THAT BUILDING JAN! THERE ARE MORE OF THE BEASTS !!!
TUM! THE ENTRANCE IS BURIED UNDER THE SAND! THERE'S NO WAY TO GET IN!
CLIMB TO THE TOP! THEN! WE MIGHT HOLD THEM OFF FROM THERE.
HERE'S A WINDOW, JAN... IT'S LOCKED!
INSIDE, JAN!
A... MUSEUM!


IT IS A MUSEUM! PERHAPS WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WORLD!
THIS IS THE LAST HOME OF MANKIND. ALL THE WORLD IS DEAD. WE ONLY OF THE BILLIONS OF PEOPLE ONCE UPON THIS EARTH ARE LEFT, WE TOO ARE DOOMED EXTINCTION!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE NOW!
THEY, TOO, HAVE DIED OUT, JAN. YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY PEOPLE LEFT ALIVE! AND I DON'T THINK WE CAN LAST LONG!
TUM, LOOK! OUR OLD TIME MACHINE! IF ONLY IT'S STILL WORKING!
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE IT WORK! COME ON, JAN!
OUR STORY, TUM!
THE LAST INVENTI
THE TIME MACHINE MADE BY TUM PAR AND JAN KAL IN 9852, CONSIDERED A CRIME AT THE TIME. THE INVENTORS WERE EXILED TO THE FUTURE. WHEN THE WORLD COUNCIL REALIZED TUM PAR AND JAN KAL WERE RIGHT, THERE WAS NO ONE LEFT WHO KNEW TH MEANING OF SCIENCE!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO, JAN!

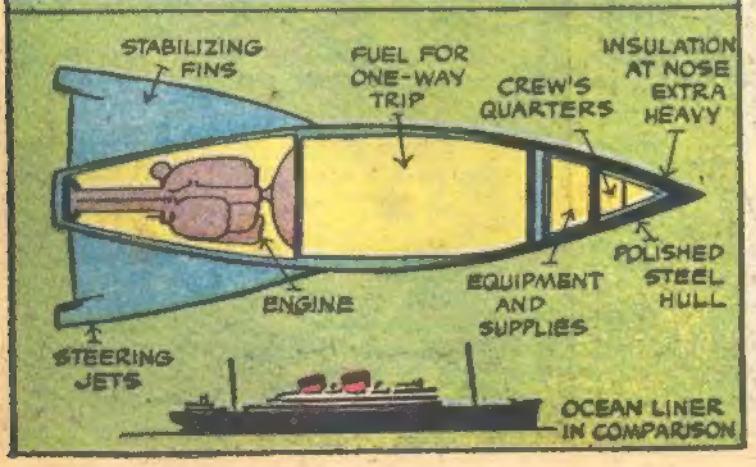

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, TUM?
WE'VE GOT ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION TO SAVE MANKIND AND THE WORLD! GET INTO THE TIME MACHINE AND SEE IF IT WORKS!
SMASH
WHAT'S THE MATTER ??
THOSE BEASTS HAVE FOUND A WAY INSIDE! QUICK, JAN, GET INTO THE SEAT!
I...I'M DIZZY, TUM! I WANT TO HELP...BUT EVERYTHING... IS SPINNING ABOUT ME!
TUM! TUM! THOSE BEASTS WILL KILL YOU! COME BACK!
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS ALONG WITH US...IT'S OUR EVIDENCE!
HURRY !!
NEVER MIND ME! I'LL MAKE IT! START THE MACHINE!
PRAY THAT THE TIME MACHINE STILL WORKS!
I'VE SET IT FOR THE TIME OF OUR TRIAL! NOW IF IT ONLY WORKS RIGHT!


ONCE AGAIN THE SWIRLING MISTS COVERED THEM AND WHEN THEY CLEARED ..
SIRE, WE HAVE PROOF THAT WHAT WE WARNED WOULD HAPPEN IF SCIENCE DIED OUT AMONG US
PRESENT YOUR EVIDENCE.
JAN AND I MADE OUR TRIP INTO THE FUTURE AND FOUND A DEAD AND DOOMED WORLD! WE BROUGHT THIS FROM THE LAST PLACE HUMANS HAD LIVED!
WHAT CAN WE DO TO AVOID THE TERRIBLE DOOM THAT HANGS OVER OUR WORLD? ISN'T IT HOPELESS?
THERE IS HOPE! REVIVE SCIENCE! WE MUST LEARN HOW TO START AGAIN THE ATOMIC FIRES IN THE SUN WHEN IT BEGINS TO COOL OFF! WE CAN BREAK UP THE SAND AND EARTH... AND BUILD UP AIR AND WATER FROM THESE!
THERE IS HOPE! WE SHALL FORM A SCIENCE INSTITUTE AND BEGIN TO PREPARE FOR THE DAY OF DOOM IN THE FAR FUTURE! TUM PAR AND JAN KAL, YOU ARE TO DIRECT THE WORK
THIS IS THE JUDGMENT OF THE WORLD GOVERNMENT COURT!
YOU SEE, SOME OF MY STORIES DO HAVE A HAPPY ENDING... IF JAN AND TUM SUCCEED IN THEIR PLANS! BUT WHO KNOWS IF THEY WILL? I DON'T! I ONLY KNOW OF STRANGE TALES... WEIRD, UNCANNY... TERRIBLE! AND I'LL HAVE MORE FOR YOU WHEN WE MEET AGAIN!

PROBLEMS of SPACE TRAVEL

THE WORLD IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING THE ERA OF SPACE TRAVEL. BUT BEFORE THIS MODERN MIRACLE BECOMES REALITY, HERE ARE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS THAT MUST BE SOLVED...

TO ESCAPE THE EARTH'S GRAVITATION, A SPACE SHIP WILL HAVE TO ATTAIN A SPEED OF 23,000 MILES PER HOUR! THOUGH EXISTING FUELS COULD BOOST A ROCKET TO THE MOON, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY ENOUGH FUEL FOR THE RETURN TRIP TO EARTH.

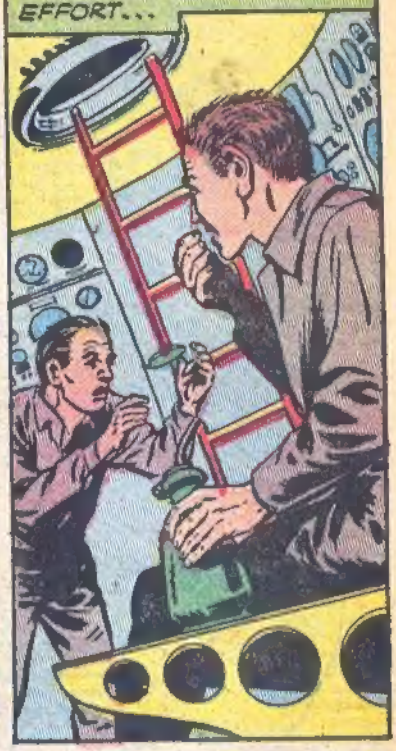


BUT THE INTENSE HEAT THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A MORE EFFICIENT FUEL WOULD SOON MELT RIGHT THROUGH ORDINARY EXHAUST TUBES...

ONLY THE STRONGEST OF MEN COULD WITHSTAND THE SUDDEN ACCELERATION OF A ROCKET TAKE-OFF... EVEN PICKED CREWS WILL BLACK OUT TEMPORARILY...

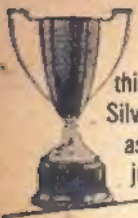
AND ONCE MAN DOES REACH OUTER SPACE, HE WILL FIND EVEN THE MOST ORDINARY BODY FUNCTIONS A PROBLEM! WITHOUT GRAVITY, EVERYTHING WILL FLOAT... THERE WILL BE NO "UP" OR "DOWN"...

LIQUIDS WILL HAVE TO BE KEPT IN CONTAINERS LEST IT EXPLODE! SWALLOWING OF FOOD WILL DEPEND ON MUSCULAR ACTION ALONE. BREATHING WILL BE AN EFFORT...



TRAVELING MUCH FASTER THAN SOUND, HUMAN CONTROL OF SPACE SHIPS WOULD LAG BEHIND THE SHIP'S OPERATION. EVEN A SPLIT SECOND WILL MEAN A DIFFERENCE OF THOUSANDS OF MILES...

UNTIL SPACE TRAVEL BY MAN CAN APPROACH THE SPEED OF LIGHT—188,000 MILES PER SECOND—SPACE EXPLORATION WILL BE CONFINED TO PLANETS OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. EVEN AT A SPEED OF 50,000 MILES PER SECOND IT WOULD TAKE A NORMAL LIFE SPAN TO MAKE A ROUND TRIP TO THE NEAREST STAR!



YOU can **WIN** this big 15" Silver Trophy as Roger just did

When I enrolled I was a skinny, sick weakling. I was shy with girls because I had nothing to show off. A few weeks after starting the Jowett Course my body was the best in the neighborhood. Now I get respect and admiration from every fellow and girl I meet.

Roger D'Hirsch

ROGER HIRSCH was an 112 lb. 6 ft. weakling **LOOK AT HIM NOW!**

Aren't YOU as SICK and Tired as I was of being SKINNY ?

CHICKEN-CHESTED
SPINDLE-ARMED
NARROW-SHOULDERED
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I gained 53 lbs. of mighty muscle
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says GEORGE F. JOWETT
World's Greatest Builder of **HE-MEN**

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